

The Tariff Policy Committee (TPC), an advisory committee, and the Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) are recommending that fares on Washington State Ferries (WSF) be increased on May 1, 2006. This proposal will continue to implement the fare policy component of the WSF Financial Plan and promote stabilization of WSF's operating budget.

A summary of the proposal follows. For more detailed information, refer to WSF's web site ([www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/fares](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/fares)) during the public comment period.

Public input is an important part of the process. Historically, public comments have lead to substantive changes to the final proposal adopted by the Transportation Commission.

## 1. General Fare Increase

The proposal calls for most fares to be raised 6% on May 1, 2006, with all fares rounded to the next nickel. This fare increase would be similar to past 5% increases with quarter and dime rounding.

Some fares in the San Juan Islands need additional adjustments based on continuing the phased implementation of the distance-based Tariff Route Equity (TRE), begun in 2001. In May 2006, oversize vehicle fares on the Anacortes-Friday Harbor route and all fares on Interisland routes in the San Juan Islands would increase by 5% more than the general fare increase (with nickel rounding). This change would mark the final TRE adjustment for the Anacortes-Friday Harbor route.

## 2. Motorcycle Fare Ratio Change

The current fare ratio of standard vehicles to motorcycles is 5:1 (the ratio is applied to the vehicle portion of the fare only). This ratio was established in 1992 and based on the Department of Transportation's Design Manual standards for the size of motorcycle and vehicle parking spaces.

The proposal calls for changing the ratio to 4:1, which more closely reflects the true ratio of space a motorcycle requires on the vehicle deck when compared to a standard vehicle. The impact of this change is an increase in motorcycle fares in addition to the general fare increase.

While vehicle traffic system-wide has decreased in recent years, motorcycle traffic has increased substantially. The "nook-and-cranny" spaces that some motorcycles fit into are not sufficient, and more motorcycles are utilizing standard vehicle lanes.

Using standard motorcycle sizes and assuming a 1-foot border of space around each motorcycle would allow four motorcycles to fit into one standard vehicle CUBE space (8'6" x 20'). The loading would be two abreast in the 8'6" wide lane and two deep within the 20' length.

## 3. Monthly Passes

The proposal calls for limiting usage of the monthly pass to 31 round trips per month and deeming the pass non-transferable, non-reproducible, and intended for a single user.

## 4. Commercial Accounts

**MAINTENANCE FEE:** To cover the cost of administering the commercial account program, the proposal calls for instituting a non-refundable, up-front maintenance fee of \$50 per year on all commercial accounts.

**DISCOUNT PROGRAM FOR IN-NEED ORGANIZATIONS:** There are a number of "in-need" organizations serving "in-need clients" that currently utilize the severability of the frequent user coupon books to effectively provide single trip discounts to their clients. To mitigate the financial impact on these organizations from the loss of severability under the new Electronic Fare System (EFS), the proposal calls for the development of a new discount program targeted to in-need organizations.

For qualified organizations, the program would offer a volume-based discount, applied after certain levels of usage are achieved, to match current frequent user policies. Appointing bodies (those who appoint Ferry Advisory Committees) will nominate organizations that meet the criteria of the program to the WSTC, who will certify them.

## 5. Extension of Over-height Surcharge Waiver for Wheelchair Lifts

The over-height surcharge is currently waived for an over-height vehicle with an attached wheelchair lift if that vehicle is under 20' in length. However, if the over-height vehicle with an attached wheelchair lift is 20'-30' in length, the surcharge is not waived. Because the intent of the waiver is that wheelchair lift equipped vehicles not be subject to the burden of an over-height surcharge, the proposal calls for extending the waiver to vehicles 20'-30' in length.

## 6. WAC Language Changes

Certain terms and phrases currently in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) do not match terms and phrases generally used by WSF, while other terms need to be updated to reflect changes with EFS. Therefore, the proposal calls for changing some WAC language to more closely align with WSF vernacular and with EFS.

## 7. Delay of Tollbooth Pricing

Last year's proposal included a higher price for discounted multi-ride products purchased at the tollbooth when those products are also available at kiosks and online. The tollbooth price for all of the Frequent User Multi-ride cards and monthly passes was to begin on May 1, 2006. Because EFS will not be fully implemented system-wide by January 2006, the proposal calls for delaying implementation of a higher tollbooth price on multi-ride discounted media until the first fare change opportunity no sooner than six months after successful completion of EFS implementation system-wide. The earliest possible implementation date would be October 9, 2006.

# Public Review

The public comment period will extend through the end of the Transportation Commission public hearing on March 23, 2006. Assuming Commission action at the hearing, fares would take effect on May 1, 2006.

# Public Meetings

Wed. Feb. 15 6:30 – 8:00 PM	<b>Vashon Island</b> Vashon Island High School (Commons) 20120 Vashon Hwy SW, Vashon
Thur. Feb. 16 6:00 – 7:00 PM	<b>Southworth</b> John Sedgewick Jr. High School (Commons) 8995 SE Sedgwick Road, Port Orchard
Wed. Feb. 22 6:00 – 7:00 PM	<b>Whidbey Island</b> Trinity Lutheran Church (Fireside Room) 18341 State Route 525, Freeland
Thur. Feb. 23 9:00 – 10:30 AM	<b>Anacortes</b> Flounder Bay Café 2201 Skyline Way, Anacortes
Thur. Feb. 23 2:00 – 3:30 PM	<b>Orcas Island</b> Orcas Center, Madrona Room 917 Mount Baker Road, Eastsound
Thur. Feb. 23 5:30 – 7:00 PM	<b>Friday Harbor</b> Mullis Senior Center 589 Nash St., Friday Harbor
Mon. Feb. 27 6:00 – 7:00 PM	<b>Bremerton</b> Norm Dicks Government Center 345 6th St., Bremerton
Wed. Mar. 1 6:30 – 8:00 PM	<b>Bainbridge Island</b> Bainbridge Commons 370 Brien Dr., Bainbridge Island

# Public Hearing Transportation Commission

Thu. Mar. 23 10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON	<b>Seattle (Downtown)</b> PSRC Board Room, 5th Floor 1101 Western Ave., Seattle
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# New Fare Proposal

Implementation Date  
**May 1, 2006**

The Tariff Policy  
Committee & WSF  
want to hear  
from you.



Washington State Ferries



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

A series of public meetings and a public hearing are scheduled throughout the Ferry System's service area. Also, comments can be forwarded via postal mail, e-mail, fax or phone.

# Ways to Comment

Website **[www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/fares/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/fares/)**

E-mail **[tariff@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:tariff@wsdot.wa.gov)**

Fax **206.515.3773**

Phone **1.888.808.7977**

Postal mail **Tariff Proposal  
2901 3rd Avenue, Suite 500  
Seattle, WA 98121**



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

◀ Schedule of Public Open Houses on back ▶



Seattle  
Bremerton

Seattle  
Bainbridge Isl.

Edmonds  
Kingston

All routes on and off Vashon Island (except passenger-only) share the same fare structure. Seattle–Bremerton and Edmonds–Kingston auto ferry route fares are set equal to the Seattle–Bainbridge fares to spread traffic among these routes.

Fauntleroy  
Vashon

Southworth  
Vashon

Pt Defiance  
Tahlequah

# New Fare Proposal

Implementation Date  
May 1, 2006

## Passenger Fares

Full Fare
Sr. Citizen or Disabled
Youth Fare (6 – 18)

## Vehicle Fares (Off-Peak)

Auto & Driver
Auto & Sr.Citizen/Disabled Driver
Motorcycle & Driver

## Peak Season Vehicle Fares

Auto & Driver
Auto & Sr.Citizen/Disabled Driver
Motorcycle & Driver

## Coupon Books, Passes, Cards

Auto Freq. User Multi-ride
PURCHASED ONLINE OR AT KIOSK
PURCHASED AT TOLL BOOTH
Motorcycle Freq. User Multi-ride
PURCHASED ONLINE OR AT KIOSK
PURCHASED AT TOLL BOOTH
Passenger Freq. User Multi-ride
PURCHASED ONLINE OR AT KIOSK
PURCHASED AT TOLL BOOTH
Passenger Monthly Pass
PURCHASED ONLINE OR AT KIOSK
PURCHASED AT RETAIL OUTLET
PASS NOT AVAILABLE AT TOLL BOOTH

**Purchased Online or at Kiosk:** Once the Electronic Fare System (EFS) is implemented, tickets will be available for purchase using the internet and at electronic kiosks located in all wsf terminals.

**Purchased at Toll Booth:** Multi-ride discounted products purchased at the tollbooth will be priced higher than those purchased online or through a wsf kiosk. To allow customers time to become familiar and comfortable with the new system, these tollbooth prices will not go into effect until the first fare change opportunity no sooner than six months after successful completion of EFS implementation system-wide. The earliest possible implementation date would be October 9, 2006.

Pass. fares round-trip  
current proposed

\$6.10	\$6.50
3.00	3.25
4.90	5.20

current proposed

10.60	11.25
9.05	9.60
4.60	5.25

current proposed

13.30	14.10
11.75	12.45
5.80	6.60

current proposed

169.60	180.00
169.60	182.50
73.60	84.00
73.60	86.50

48.80	52.00
48.80	54.50
79.10	83.20
79.10	84.20


Seattle  
Vashon

## Passenger-Only Ferries

Full Fare
Sr. Citizen or Disabled
Youth Fare (6 – 18)

Passenger Freq. User Multi-ride
PURCHASED ONLINE OR AT KIOSK
PURCHASED AT TOLL BOOTH

Passenger Monthly Pass
PURCHASED ONLINE OR AT KIOSK
PURCHASED AT RETAIL OUTLET
PASS NOT AVAILABLE AT TOLL BOOTH

Pass. fares round-trip  
current proposed

\$4.70	\$5.00
2.30	2.50
3.80	4.00

current proposed

8.20	8.70
7.00	7.45
3.60	4.05

current proposed

10.30	10.90
9.10	9.65
4.50	5.10

current proposed

131.20	139.20
131.20	141.70
57.60	64.80
57.60	67.30

37.60	40.00
37.60	42.00
61.20	64.00
61.20	65.00

All fares one-way  
current proposed

\$2.35	\$2.50
1.15	1.25
1.90	2.00

current proposed

8.20	8.70
7.00	7.45
3.60	4.05

current proposed

10.30	10.90
9.10	9.65
4.50	5.10

current proposed

131.20	139.20
131.20	141.70
57.60	64.80
57.60	67.30

37.60	40.00
37.60	42.00
61.20	64.00
61.20	65.00

All fares round-trip  
current proposed

\$4.00	\$4.20
2.00	2.10
3.20	3.40

current proposed

13.60	14.40
11.60	12.30
6.00	6.75

current proposed

17.00	18.00
15.00	15.90
7.50	8.45

current proposed

108.80	115.20
108.80	117.70
48.00	54.00
48.00	56.50

32.00	33.60
32.00	35.30
52.20	53.80
52.20	54.80

Pass. fares round-trip  
current proposed

\$3.60	\$3.85
1.80	1.90
2.90	3.10

current proposed

6.30	6.65
5.40	5.65
2.70	3.15

current proposed

7.90	8.35
7.00	7.35
3.40	3.95

current proposed

100.80	106.40
100.80	108.90
43.20	50.40
43.20	52.90

28.80	30.80
28.80	32.35
47.10	49.30
47.10	50.30

All fares round-trip  
current proposed

EARLY	\$9.10	\$9.60
END	10.10	10.65
EARLY	4.50	4.80
END	5.00	5.30
EARLY	7.30	7.70
END	8.10	8.55

current proposed

EARLY	22.00	23.35
END	24.40	25.90
EARLY	17.40	18.55
END	19.30	20.55
EARLY	11.70	13.05
END	13.00	14.50

current proposed

EARLY	29.70	31.55
END	33.00	35.00
EARLY	24.20	25.75
END	26.90	28.60
EARLY	15.80	17.65
END	17.60	19.60

current proposed

91.50	97.15
91.50	99.65
97.50	108.75
97.50	111.25

65.70	69.25
65.70	71.75





All fares round-trip  
current proposed

EARLY	\$9.10	\$9.60
END	10.10	10.65
EARLY	4.50	4.80
END	5.00	5.30
EARLY	7.30	7.70
END	8.10	8.55

current proposed

EARLY	26.40	27.95
END	29.30	31.05
EARLY	21.80	23.15
END	24.20	25.70
EARLY	12.60	14.20
END	14.00	15.75

current proposed

EARLY	35.70	37.75
END	39.60	41.95
EARLY	30.20	31.95
END	33.50	35.55
EARLY	17.10	19.20
END	18.90	21.30

current proposed

109.90	116.45
109.90	118.95
105.00	118.15
105.00	120.65

65.70	69.25
65.70	71.75





All fares round-trip  
current proposed

EARLY	\$9.10	\$9.60
END	10.10	10.65
EARLY	4.50	4.80
END	5.00	5.30
EARLY	7.30	7.70
END	8.10	8.55

current proposed

EARLY	31.40	33.25
END	34.80	36.90
EARLY	26.80	28.45
END	29.70	31.55
EARLY	13.60	15.55
END	15.10	17.25

current proposed

EARLY	42.40	44.90
END	47.00	49.85
EARLY	36.90	39.10
END	40.90	43.45
EARLY	18.40	21.00
END	20.40	23.30

current proposed

130.50	138.40
130.50	140.90
113.30	129.40
113.30	131.90

65.70	69.25
65.70	71.75





All fares one-way  
current proposed

N/C	N/C
N/C	N/C
N/C	N/C

current proposed

\$13.90	\$15.45
13.90	15.45
4.00	4.75

current proposed

17.40	19.35
17.40	19.35
5.00	5.95

current proposed

55.60	61.80
55.60	64.30






All fares one-way  
current proposed

\$14.70	\$15.60
7.30	7.80
11.80	12.50

current proposed

39.50	41.90
32.10	34.10
19.75	22.20

current proposed

49.50	52.40
42.10	44.60
24.75	27.75

current proposed






e contact OEO's  
(60) 705-7098.